



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

PO Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102  
Phone: 573/526-9100 Fax: 573/634-7966  
E-mail: mosema@mail.mo.gov



**For Immediate Release:**  
**Susie Stonner, SEMA 573-526-9136**

### **Once it is Safe, Volunteers Will Be Needed for Hurricane Katrina Cash Donations Will Help Hurricane Victims Now**

Americans are some of the most compassionate people in the world. They collect clothing and supplies for disaster victims; however these efforts may unwittingly create a disaster within a disaster for Emergency Managers who must store and try to distribute donations. Likewise volunteers, who spontaneously show up to work, may not be needed until later in the response efforts. These spontaneous volunteers can put themselves in danger and hamper rescue efforts.

"Once the flood waters have receded, trained volunteers will be needed in the hardest hit areas in Mississippi and Louisiana. Until the states can pinpoint what types of volunteers they need, it is best to send cash donations to a recognized voluntary organization. Do not send used clothing," said Dante Gliniecki, of State Emergency Management Agency and Missouri's Statewide Volunteer Coordinator. Gliniecki has been asked to help coordinate donations management and volunteer efforts in Mississippi.

Voluntary agencies provide a wide variety of services after disasters; such as clean up, childcare, housing repair, crisis counseling, family assistance, sheltering and food. These national organizations provide volunteer training and will deploy trained volunteers to help hurricane victims.

"Cash donations allow voluntary agencies to issue cash vouchers to hurricane victims so they can meet their needs. Cash donations also allow agencies to avoid the labor-intensive need to store, sort, pack and distribute donated goods," said Gliniecki

FEMA is in the process of establishing an 800 number to manage and direct donations and/or volunteers

Here is a list of phone numbers set up solely for cash donations and/or volunteers.

Donate cash to:

- American Red Cross, 1-800-HELP NOW (435-7669) English, 1-800-257-7575 Spanish;
- Operation Blessing, 1-800-436-6348
- America's Second Harvest, 1-800-344-8070

Donate Cash to and Volunteer with:

- Adventist Community Services 1-800-381-7171
- Catholic Charities, USA 703 549-1390
- Christian Disaster Response 941-956-5183 or 941-551-9554
- Christian Reformed World Relief Committee 1-800-848-5818
- Church World Service 1-800-297-1516
- Convoy of Hope 417-823-8998

- Lutheran Disaster Response 800-638-3522
- Mennonite Disaster Service 717-859-2210
- Nazarene Disaster Response 888-256-5886
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance 800-872-3283
- Salvation Army 1-800-SAL-ARMY (725-2769)
- Southern Baptist Convention -- Disaster Relief 1-800-462-8657, ext. 6440
- United Methodist Committee on Relief 1-800-554-8583

For further information: visit the website for the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) at: <http://www.nvoad.org/>.